

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the consideration shown by the U.S. Patent Office, as evidenced by the October 30, 2006 Office Action. In that Office Action, out of claims 1-26, claims 1-10, 15, 17-18, 21, and 23-25 were rejected. As such, claims 1-26 remain in the case with claims 11-14, 19-20, 22, and 26 being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The October 30, 2006 Office Action has been carefully considered. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application by the Examiner in light of the above amendments and the following remarks in response to the October 30, 2006 Office Action.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Applicant has amended paragraphs [0024], [0029], and [0030] in the specification to correct only typographical errors. None of the aforementioned amendments were made to overcome prior art. Applicant has made the amendments to facilitate prosecution of the application. The Applicant believes that the amendments do not include new matter and are not related to patentability.

NOVELTY OVER HAUGEN

Claims 1-3 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by United States Patent No. 2,616,591 to Haugen (hereinafter "*Haugen*"). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In order to anticipate under §102, a reference must teach *every aspect* of the claimed invention. *Haugen* teaches dispense mechanisms that rotate under a hopper. In this case, *Haugen* fails at least to disclose plurality of dispense mechanisms, wherein a respective one of each dispense mechanisms coupled to a respective compartment of a vessel.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is not anticipated because the Office Action fails to teach every aspect of independent claim

1. Applicant respectfully submits that as claim 1 is allowable, claims 2-3 and 7 which depend therefrom, are also allowable.

NOVELTY OVER POZO

Claims 1-2, 7 and 9 stand rejected under 34 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,809,883 to Pozo (hereinafter "*Pozo*"). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In order to anticipate under §102, a reference must teach *every aspect* of the claimed invention. In this case, *Pozo* at least fails to disclose a vessel suitable for storing fluid cracking catalyst and a separator disposed in the vessel and defining at least two compartments within the vessel.

In contrast, *Pozo* discloses a sand dispensing assembly having a bin disposed over a rotating middle section. The middle section is not a vessel having compartments, as asserted by the Examiner. Furthermore, as the bin and compartments are not a vessel, *Pozo* does not teach or suggest a plenum defined in the vessel and fluidly coupled to each compartments.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is not anticipated because the Office Action fails to teach *every aspect* of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully submits that as claim 1 is allowable, claims 2, 7 and 9 which depend therefrom, are also allowable.

NOVELTY OVER EVANS

Claims 10, 15, 17-18, 21 and 23-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by United States Patent Publication No. 2004/0166032 to Evans (hereinafter "*Evans*"). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In order to anticipate under §102, a reference must teach *every aspect* of the claimed invention. In this case, *Evans* at least fails to disclose a vessel having a plurality of catalyst storage chambers.

In contrast, *Evans* discloses a catalyst dispensing assembly having two separate low pressure vessels coupled to a high pressure vessel (e.g., shot pot). None of the vessels of *Evans* has chambers disposed therein for storing catalysts, as asserted by the Examiner. Thus, *Evans* does not teach or suggest a vessel having chambers disposed therein for storing catalysts, as recited by claim 10, or storing catalyst in first and second compartments of a vessel, as recited by claim 21.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 10 and 21 are not anticipated because the Office Action fails to teach *every aspect* of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully submits that as claims 10 and 21 are allowable, claims 15, 17-18 and 23-25, which depend therefrom are also allowable.

NONOBVIOUSNESS OVER HAUGEN

The Office Action rejected Claims 6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over *Haugen*. The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Consequently, in this case, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 and the all the claims dependent thereon, are not obvious because the Office Action fails to demonstrate a motivation to modify the apparatus of *Haugen* in a manner that would yield a vessel suitable for storing fluid cracking catalyst and a separator disposed in the vessel and defining at least two compartments within the vessel. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is overcome and independent claim 1 is not obvious. As independent claim 1 is allowable, claims 6-8 which depend therefrom are also allowable.

NONOBVIOUSNESS OVER HAUGEN, IN VIEW OF MARKS AND KOMEYA

The Office Action rejected Claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over *Haugen* as applied to claims 1 and 2 above, and further in view of United States Patent No. 4,782,427 to Marks (hereinafter "*Marks*") or United States Patent No. 4,660,881 to Komeya et al., (hereinafter "*Komeya*"). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Marks teaches adjusting an internal volume in a box. *Komeya* teaches a movable container that can be adjusted to move relative to a stationary retainer. Neither *Marks* or *Komeya*, alone or in combination, teach or suggest a modification to *Haugen* that would yield a separator disposed in the vessel and defining at least two compartments within the vessel, a plenum defined in the vessel and fluidly coupled to each compartments, and a plurality of dispense mechanisms, a respective one of each dispense mechanisms coupled to a respective compartment, as recited by claim 1. As such, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established as the references fail to teach all the claimed elements.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is overcome and independent claim 1 is not obvious. As independent claim 1 is allowable, claims 4-5 which depend therefrom are also allowable.

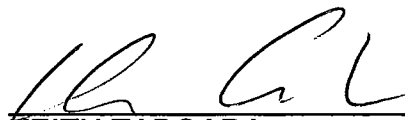
CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that all claims now pending are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issuance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that any unresolved issues still exist, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Keith Taboada at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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